

Department of Water and Environmental Regulation
Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety

# Application for new permit or referral to clear native vegetation

This is the form to submit a referral of proposed clearing or apply for a clearing permit under Part V of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986* (EP Act).

Before you submit this form, please check you have completed all the fields for the form type and fully prepared any required supporting documents (including maps etc.). We will return / decline any forms that are not correctly completed.

To find out more about the stages of assessment for clearing permit forms, see the *Procedure: Native vegetation clearing permits*.

# Part 1 - Form type

| Select your <u>form type</u> .   | ⊠ Referral of proposed clearing (section 51DA of the EP Act)   |
|--|--|
| NOTE: Where appropriate in this form, and unless stated otherwise, the terms 'application' and 'applicant' also mean 'referral' and 'referrer' respectively. | <ul> <li>□ Application for an area permit (section 51E of the EP Act)</li> <li>□ Application for a purpose permit (section 51E of the EP Act)</li> </ul> |

## Part 2 - Applicant details

## 2.1 Applicant name

| For area                                   | ☐ Applying as an individual – complete the following:   |   |  |  |
|--|---|---|--|--|
| permits:  If granted, the name(s) of (all) | Title   | ☐ Mr ☐ Mrs ☐ Ms ☐ Other:                                      |  |  |
| landowner(s)<br>will be listed as          | Name(s)   |   |  |  |
| 'permit<br>holders' on the<br>permit.      |   | a body corporate or other entity formed at law – complete the |  |  |
| For purpose permits:                       | Name  | Leichhardt Industrials Pty Ltd                                |  |  |
| If granted, the name(s) of (all)           | Australian Com  | mpany Number (ACN) 613 581 614                                |  |  |
| applicant(s) will go on the permit.        | ☐ Applying as a government entity (e.g. government department, local government authority, or other statutory body) |   |  |  |
| F  | Name  |   |  |  |

# 2.2 Applicant contact details

Provide the contact details for the above (primary contact).

| Title                    | ☑ Mr □ Mrs □ Ms □ Other:       |  |    |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|--|----|
| First name               |                                |  |    |
| Last name                |                                |  |    |
| Position                 | CEO                            |  |    |
| Company name             | Leichhardt Industrials Pty LTD |  |    |
| Contact phone number (1) | Phone number (2)               |  | 2) |
| Email address            |                                |  |    |

## 2.2 Applicant contact postal details

Provide the postal address for the above individual, body corporate or local government authority (primary contact).

| Address line 1 |          |  |
|----------------|----------|--|
| Address line 2 |          |  |
| Suburb         |          |  |
| State          | Postcode |  |

# 2.3 Applicant contact - registered business address

If applying as a company, incorporated body, local government authority or public authority, please also supply the registered business office address.

| Address line 1           |              |        |  |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------|--|
| Address line 2           |              |        |  |
| Suburb                   |              |        |  |
| State                    | Postcode     |        |  |
| Contact phone number (1) | Phone number | er (2) |  |

## 2.4 Electronic correspondence consent

Both the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) and Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety (DMIRS) prefer to send all correspondence via email. We request that you consent to receiving all correspondence relating to instruments and notices under Part V of the EP Act via email. Please indicate your consent in this section of the form.

| I consent that all written correspondence between myself (the applicant) and DWER/DMIRS (as applicable) about the subject of this form will be exclusively via email, using the email address provided above. | ⊠ Yes | □ No |
|---|-------|------|
|---|-------|------|

# 2.5 Contact details for enquiries

If different from the applicant's contact details, enter the contact details of a person with whom DWER or DMIRS should liaise with (e.g. a consultant).

| Same as applicant's contact details |                    |         |            | □ Yes | ⊠ No |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|---------|------------|-------|------|
| If 'No' – complete the following:   |                    |         |            |       |      |
| Contact name                        |                    |         |            |       |      |
| Position (if applicable)            |                    |         |            |       |      |
| Company name (if applicable)        | Preston Consulting |         |            |       |      |
| Contact phone number (1)            |                    | Phone r | number (2) |       |      |
| Business or postal address line 1   |                    |         |            |       |      |
| Business or postal address line 2   |                    |         |            |       |      |
| Suburb                              |                    |         |            |       |      |
| State                               |                    |         | Postcode   |       |      |
| Email address                       |                    |         |            |       |      |

# Part 3 - Land details

- You must accurately describe the location of the land where your clearing is proposed.
- If you have a large number of properties, please provide the relevant details for each property in a separately attached supporting document.

## 3.1 Property details

| I have a large number of properties and have given the relevant details in an attached supporting document. | ☐ Yes – skip to Part 4 | ⊠ No |
|---|------------------------|------|
|---|------------------------|------|

## If 'No' - complete the following:

| Land description  Provide the following details, as applicable, for all properties:  - volume and folio number - lot or location number(s) - crown lease or reserve number - pastoral lease number - mining tenement number | Results from LandGate Cadastre: Pilbara Ports Authority, land_type: FHOLD, pi_parcel: P401284 567 land_type: RESVE, pi_parcel: R 52734 |  |      |
|---|--|--|------|
| Street address – Line 1   | NA   |  |      |
| Street address – Line 2   | NA   |  |      |
| Suburb  | NA   |  |      |
| State   | WA Postcode 6714   |  | 6714 |
| Local government area(s)  | City of Karratha   |  |      |
| Land zoning   | Pilbara Ports Authority reserve  |  |      |

# Part 4 – Relationship to landowner

Tell us which of the following options best describes you as the person completing and submitting this form. If you are filling out this form on behalf of the applicant, answer this question as though you are the applicant.

## <u>Proof of ownership</u> may include:

- a certificate of title (that is less than 6 months old)
- a pastoral or mining lease
- public authority that has care, control or management of the land
- other form of lease, land tenure or specific arrangement.

| Relationship to landowner (select one of the following options)   | Complete the following   |
|---|--|
| ☐ I am the landowner  | ☐ Attach proof of ownership  |
| ☐ I am lodging a form on behalf<br>of the landowner (e.g. a<br>consultant)  | ☐ Attach proof of ownership  |
| ☐ I am acting on the landowner's behalf and will be jointly responsible for the clearing permit (i.e. joint form) | □ Attach <u>proof of ownership</u> □ Complete and attach an ' <u>Acting on behalf and jointly responsible</u> ' letter   |
| ☐ I am likely to become the landowner   | ☐ Attach the Certificate of Title ☐ Attach evidence of the pending transfer of ownership and/or contract of sale ('offer and acceptance')  |
| ☑ I will undertake the clearing activities with the landowner's authority and will be the permit holder           | <ul> <li>☑ Attach <u>proof of ownership</u></li> <li>☑ Complete and attach an '<u>Authority to access and clear native vegetation</u>' letter (if the applicant is not the landowner)</li> </ul> |
| ☐ A person with multiple land parcels   | □ Attach proof of ownership □ Complete and attach 'Authority to access and clear native vegetation' letter (if the applicant is not the landowner)   |

## Part 5 - Proposed clearing

#### 5.1 Maps and/or spatial data

Select which map type(s) you will attach with your form.

Note: We will decline / return forms (as applicable) if you do not provide sufficient information for this question. 

- Geometry type: polygon shape
- Coordinate system: Geocentric Datum of Australia (GDA)
   1994/2020 (geographic latitude / longitude)
   GDA 1994 provided
- Datum: GDA 1994 / GDA 2020 (please specify which was provided) GDA 1994 provided

☐ An aerial photograph or map with a north arrow, clearly marking the proposed clearing area

#### Note:

- An ESRI shapefile must use one of the following filename extensions: .shp, .shx, .dbf, and/or .prj
- You must provide an ESRI shapefile if the form requires an assessment under an Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (Cth) (EPBC Act) accredited process. See Part 8 of this form for more information.

#### 5.2 Size

- If you propose to clear a patch(s) of vegetation, enter a hectare value for the total size of the area (mark number of trees as zero).
- If you propose to remove only individual trees from the area(s) (i.e. the shrubs, grasses, groundcover plants will remain intact), provide the number of trees (and mark total area as estimated hectares).
  - Note: If any shrubs, grasses, and/or groundcover plants MAY be damaged in the clearing process, add this to the total area.
- If you propose to clear an area of vegetation within a larger footprint, enter the hectare
  value for the total size of the area to be cleared (mark number of trees as zero) and the
  size of the footprint. For example, 5 hectares of clearing within a 10 hectare footprint.
  This option is only available for <u>purpose permit</u> applications.
- Enter values for BOTH number of trees and the size of the area if you are clearing individual trees in one area AND a patch of vegetation in a different area.
- Please note the following area conversions/calculations:

1 hectare =  $10,000 \text{ m}^2$  Area of circle =  $3.14 \text{ x radius}^2$ 1 acre = 0.4 hectares /  $4,000 \text{ m}^2$  Area of a rectangle = length x width 1 tree = 0.01 hectares /  $100 \text{ m}^2$  Area of a triangle =  $\frac{1}{2}$  length x perpendicular height

| Total area of clearing proposed (hectares)             | Less than 1 hectare (0.9ha)  |
|--|--|
| Footprint of clearing (hectares) (purpose permit only) | All 0.9 ha of clearing to be conducted within a 12.75 ha polygon (3 x 200x200m heritage cleared polygons + 0.75 ha access track polygon) |

| Number of individual trees to be removed | Zero |
|--|------|
|--|------|

Note: Calculate the area of a tree based on the area encompassed by the tree's drip line; that being the outermost circumference of the tree's canopy.

#### 5.3 Purpose

| Provide the reason for proposed clearing (e.g. road construction, grazing and pasture, hazard reduction, horticulture, timber harvesting etc.) | For vehicular access for the drill rig, support truck, hire vehicles and operation of the rig to drill groundwater investigation bores to support baseline groundwater studies and characterisation of the groundwater regime to support Part IV environmental assessment. |
|--|--|
| Specify what the final land use will be after clearing   | Native vegetation - to remain Pilbara Port<br>Authority reserve.   |

#### 5.4 Method

| Proposed method of clearing (i.e. burning, cutting, draining, flooding, grazing, mechanical clearing/bulldozing or other – specify) | No physical removal of flora. Vehicles will drive over flora when accessing bore sites and some potential damage may occur during drill rig operation or laydown of gear where bare ground is not available. |
|---|--|
|---|--|

#### 5.5 Timeframe

| (e.g. 1/7/2022 to 30/8/2024) | Start date: 29/11/21 |
|------------------------------|----------------------|
|                              | End date: 30/06/22   |

Note: The clearing referral process is not suitable for any clearing that is expected to take longer than two years.

## 5.6 Avoidance and mitigation

Explain how you have, or will, put avoidance and mitigation measures in place to eliminate, reduce, or otherwise mitigate the need for and scale of the proposed clearing of native vegetation.

Attach supporting documents to substantiate your explanation.

Your explanation should demonstrate you have planned the project so that the least clearing possible is to be undertaken. The following questions may help you frame your explanation:

- Why did you select this location and amount of clearing?
- What alternatives to clearing e.g. engineering solutions did you consider?
- What changes, if any, did you make to the location or amount of clearing to reduce the impacts of the clearing?

Note: If you do not demonstrate adequate efforts to avoid and mitigate clearing, we will ask you to do so during the validation of this form.

Provide the avoidance and mitigation details

The locations have been selected to determine the groundwater regime and baseline water quality to support the environmental approvals process for the Eramurra Solar Salt Project as referred under Part IV of the EP Act. These three bore holes are part of a larger program of 24 wells for which a Programme of Works application has been approved by DMIRS, as the bulk of the groundwater bores are on Leichhardt's mining tenements.

These three locations on the Pilbara Port Authority Reserve have track access close to the desired locations minimising the need for vehicular access on undisturbed areas. No new tracks will be created using mechanised equipment. Access will be via existing tracks (predominantly historical pastoral tracks) to the closest point to the drill hole location before travelling off-road. Once off road, access will be following pre-traversed GPS located secondary tracks. The length of these tracks along with an allowance for the turning around of vehicles and parking has been calculated to be 2.3km long and 3 metres wide, which represents an area of 0.75ha of potential clearing due to vehicular traverse.

GIS has been used to select sparsely vegetated areas for the groundwater wells within a 200m x 200m polygon in a which a heritage survey has been conducted. Photographs indicate some areas of bare ground/sparse vegetation within these polygons and these bare areas or the tracks themselves will be used for the laydown of gear and minor sumps wherever possible. GIS indicates one site is degraded with numerous cattle tracks visible from imagery. As a ground disturbing geotechnical program has already been conducted at the adjacent mining tenements with approval from DMIRS, we are aware of two priority flora species to be avoided while operating the drill and water sampling. These are recorded in the Project Operations Manual. Physical removal of native vegetation is not intended and the drilling depth is anticipated to be between 5 and 10 metres limiting the amount of gear (casing). Within the turning circle of the tracks, there is an additional 0.15ha in which there may be some damage to plants during the activities. Potential clearing of native vegetation is therefore less than one hectare and includes the tracks and any works within the three 200m x 200m heritage cleared polygons.

Leichhardt has mapped the Priority 3 Ecological Community (PEC) within the Horseflats Land System of the Roebourne Plains across the broader area. This mapping shows one drill site (MBH009) is not within the PEC; one site is not within the publicly available mapping of the Horseflat Land System but our mapping suggests it may be within the PEC (MBH010); and one site is within the PEC (MBH011). This map is attached and there is a negligible impact on the amount of PEC surrounding the boundaries and region in general.

A Leichhardt person (CEO or Operational Lead) will be on site accompanying contractors for the duration of the program. A Project Operations Manual for the program covering these three wells and the installations on the adjacent mining tenements has been drafted.

## Part 6 - Offset

| Do you want to submit a clearing offset proposal with your form?  | □ Yes ⊠ No            |  |
|---|-----------------------|--|
| If 'Yes' – please complete and attach Appendix A of the  Clearing of native vegetation offsets procedure guideline as a | ☐ Appendix A attached |  |

| supporting document for your form.   |                              |                             |  |  |  |
|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|--|
| Part 7 – Surveys for assessments (IBSA and IMSA)   |                              |                             |  |  |  |
| Do you want to submit marine or biodiversity surveys in support of your form?  |                              | ☐ Yes ⊠ No – skip to Part 8 |  |  |  |
| 7.1 Biodiversity surveys   |                              |                             |  |  |  |
| If you want to submit any biodiversity surveys to support this form Environmental Protection Authority's (EPA) <u>Instructions for the pathe Index of Biodiversity Surveys for Assessments</u> (IBSA). If you requirements, DWER/DMIRS (as applicable) may decline/return  | reparation of<br>do not meet | data packages for           |  |  |  |
| Please provide the IBSA number(s) – or submission number(s) if the IBSA number has not yet been issued – in the space provided. Note that a submission number is not confirmation that a biodiversity survey has been accepted and is not the same as an IBSA number. IBSA numbers are only issued once a survey has been accepted. Once an IBSA number is issued, please notify DWER/DMIRS (as applicable). Please note DWER / DMIRS will suspend the assessment timeframes for your form until you provide the IBSA number(s). |                              |                             |  |  |  |
| Have you submitted all the biodiversity surveys that support this form to the Index of Biodiversity Surveys for Assessment, available at <a href="mailto:ibsasubmissions.dwer.wa.gov.au">ibsasubmissions.dwer.wa.gov.au</a> ?  |                              | ☐ Yes ☑ Not applicable      |  |  |  |
| Provide an IBSA number (preferred) or a submission number(s)   |                              |                             |  |  |  |
| 7.2 Marine surveys  If you want to submit any marine surveys to support this form, you must follow the EPA's   Instructions for the preparation of data packages for the Index of Marine Surveys for   Assessments (IMSA). If you do not meet the IMSA requirements, DWER may decline/return your form.  |                              |                             |  |  |  |
| Have you prepared all the marine surveys that support this form accordance with the EPA's Instructions for the preparation of depackages for the Index of Marine Surveys for Assessments?  |                              | ☐ Yes ☑ Not applicable      |  |  |  |
|  |                              |                             |  |  |  |